Act, 1969 where separate redressal machineries have been provided to deal with such offences.

Consumer Groups Dissatisfied with Functioning of Consumer Courts

1689. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of consumer groups have expressed their dissatisfaction with the functioning and file-up of cases in Consumer Courts of the country;

(b) if so, the break-up of consumer disputes pending in various courts of the country as on date;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government propose to entrust such cases to other agencies also for quick disposal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The Consumer organisations have generally expressed their dissatisfaction over the functioning and pendency of cases in the consumer courts;

(b) A statement of cases pending in the State Commissions and District Consumer Fora in various States/UTs is enclosed. [See Appendix 17.2, Annexure No. 38.]

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Committee to Advise BIS on Quality Control

1690. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee had been constituted to advise the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) on ways and means to deal with violations of quality control orders as also misuse of ISI mark;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has become functional and has given any advice to BIS so far and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the products for which the BIS has developed standards and whether the standards have been obligatory upon those products and if so, from which date;

(d) whether there is any proposal to constitute a similar committee to monitor the functioning of the Super Bazar and the Kendriya Bhandar to ensure that only quality goods are sold through them at reasonable prices as also the availability of all quality goods in all the branches of these organisations; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Standing Committee on Enforcement has been set up by the Bureau of Indian Standards. The Committee has become functional and the main recommendations of the Committee are as under:—

(i) BIS should launch publicity drives so that concepts and requirements of quality and standards and legal provisions thereon become widely known all over the country.

(ii) Lacunae in the existing statutory provisions on enforcement of quality standards should be plugged

(iii) Consumer organisations should be involved for supplementing the efforts of the BIS and the State Governments/UTs. These organisations should take recourse to Consumer Protection Act and MRTP Act for enforcing the quality of products.

(c) BIS has developed approximately 16,500 standards covering various types of products, methods of tests, code of practice, vocabulary, etc. On considerations of health and safety of consumers, the Government has brought certain items, covering 125 standards, under mandatory certification through various notifications/quality control orders issued under Essential Commodities Act, 1955, Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, etc. Details of these items, including dates of mandatory certification, are indicated in the Annexure. [See Appendix 17.2, Annexure No. 39.]

(d) and (e) There are no proposals to constitute committees to monitor the functioning of Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar. It is the endeavour of these organisations to sell only quality goods at reasonable prices and also to ensure their availability at all the branches.

सुपर बाजार के महाप्रबंधक द्वारा संसद सदस्यों से प्राप्त हुए पत्रों और अभ्यावेदनों का उत्तर दिया जाना

1691. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी. सोलंकी** : क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सुपर बाजार के महाप्रबंधक द्वारा सांसदों द्वारा भेजे जा रहे पत्रों और अभ्यावेदनों के उपयुक्त उत्तर दिये जा रहे हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है,